

# CHEASTY GREENSPACE

**Restoration and  
Mountain Bike Trail Pilot Project  
Process**



# CHEASTY Greenspace

ACQUISITION FUNDED IN PART THROUGH:  
• KING COUNTY 1989 OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS BOND  
AND CONSERVATION FUTURES FUND  
• WASHINGTON STATE INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE  
FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION - WWRP

*Preserved as Open Space*



 City of Seattle  
Parks and Recreation



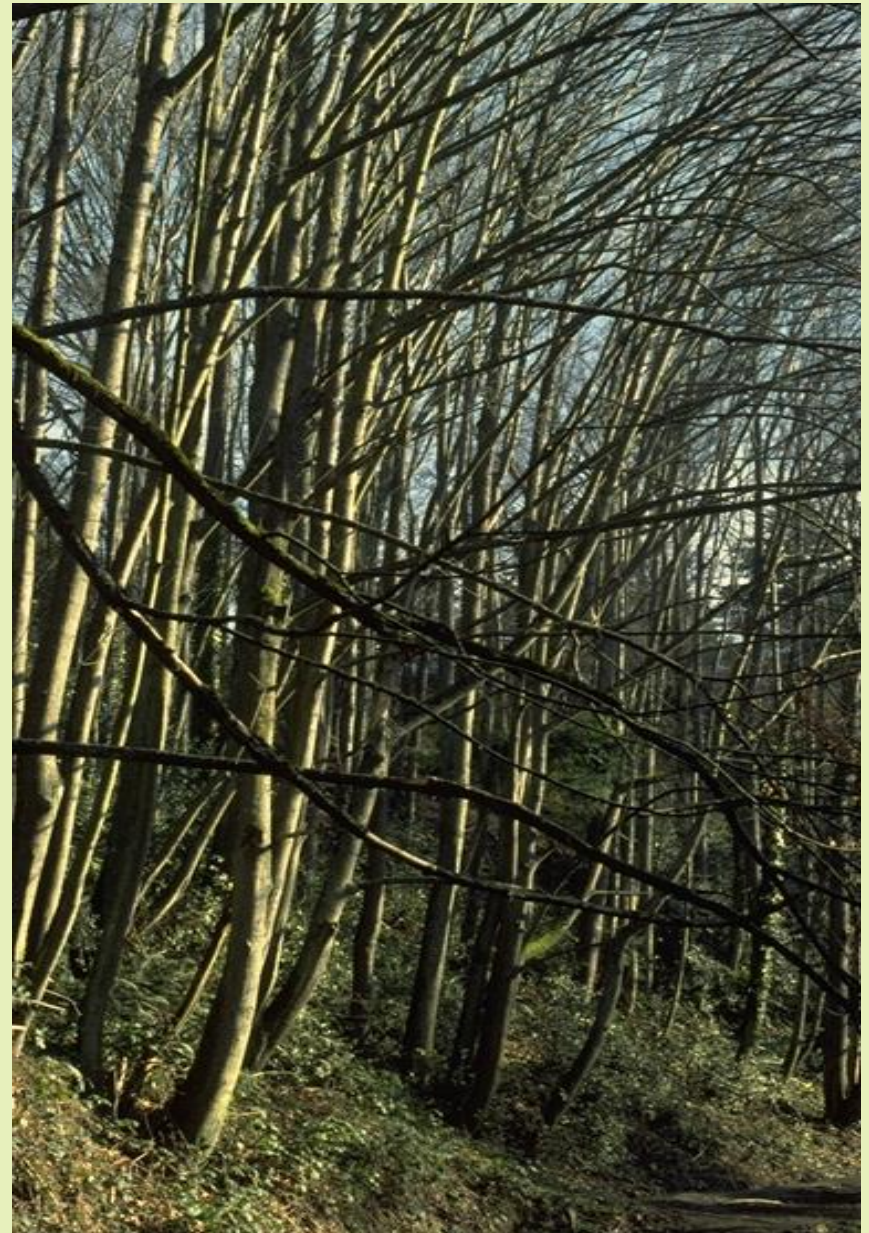




## Forest Type

### Closed canopy forested areas

- Unmanaged for 20-40 years
- Primarily deciduous
- Limited understory diversity
- Invasive shrubs and trees
- Unhealthy and declining canopy
- Invasive understory
- Mixed vegetation



# Management Area Forest Issues and Opportunities:

## Restoration Goals:

- Improve native tree diversity by planting deciduous trees in riparian areas
- Increase conifers
- Decrease invasive cover in riparian/wetland areas
- Remove ivy from trees
- Remove all invasive maple saplings
- Remove invasive maple seed source along Boulevard

Green Seattle Partnership Restoration Sites



CHEASTY GS: CHEASTY BOULEVARD



## Existing Impacts:

### Human Impacts

- Social Trails
- Encroachment
- Garbage and Yard Waste
- Encampments
- Trespass Tree Removals
- Replanting



# Design Considerations:

## Trail Issues:

### Major Concerns

- Erosion

- Impacts to Wildlife and Plants

- Impacts to Other Users

- Changes in uses of Park

- Maintenance of trail

# Design Solutions:

## Erosion

- Average grade should stay under 10 percent (with grade reversals)
- Maximum grade should be 15 percent (except for natural or built rock structures)
- The half-rule: A trail's grade shouldn't exceed half the grade of the side-slope.
- Engineer solutions first, not after failures.

## Impacts to Wildlife and Plants

- Route the trail on the uphill side of established trees to avoid their roots.
- Minimize trail width
- Avoid areas identified as critical habitat
- Line trail with native shrub species
- Engage bikers in restoration program
- Restrict access during sensitive times



# Design Solutions<sup>cont.</sup>:

## Impacts to Other Users

- Add grade brakes to reduce speed, reducing risk to other users
- Develop single use trails
- Encourage respectful riding
- Route trails to positive control points (viewpoints, other attractions)

## Changes in uses of Park

- Project positive use.
- Maintain a trained, dedicated and friendly volunteer base.
- Opening up area for others to enjoy from the inside.



## Design Solutions<sup>cont.</sup>:

### Maintenance of trail

- Build sustainable trails e.g. “grade reversal”
- Show commitment for work parties, committee meetings, etc.
- Use as much rock as possible
- Emphasis on restoration projects
- Establish clear directions and expectations through MOUs and Leverage \$'s.



## **Anticipated Timeline:**

January 9, 2014: Board Meeting for recommendations.

January – Fall 2014: Design Proposal, Review, Community Process, Fundraising Campaign.

Fall 2014 – Spring 2015 – Trail building, forest restoration.

May 2015 – Grand Opening, pilot monitoring period begins followed by quarterly inspections.

May 2016 – Pilot project period completed – report to Board of Directors on findings and for policy recommendations.